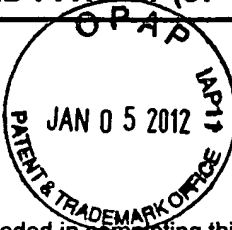


Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378 (c))**

Docket Number (Optional)

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Fax: (571) 273-8300



01/18/2012 DALLEN 00000011 5971242

01 FC:1599

3140.00 0P

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

Patent No. 5,971,242

Application Number 08939927

Issue Date 10/26/1999

Filing Date 9/29/1997

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

Also complete the following information, if applicable

The above – identified patent

☐

Is a reissue of original Patent No.

original issue date

original application number

original filing date

☐

resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international application

filed on

2012 JAN -9 PM 4:18
RECEIVED
INFORMATION
SECTION
JAN 9 2012

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.89(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (*along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class main in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Date 12/31/11

Signature Linda J Anderson

LINDA J ANDERSON
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

[page 1 of 3]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)

3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$	3 ½ yr fee	(1551)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$	3 ½ yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$	7 ½ yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$	7 ½ yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$	11 ½ yr fee	(1553)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ <i>2365.00</i>	11 ½ yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$

4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ *75.00* (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$

5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ *2440.00*
check 700.00

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. the sum of \$

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. *please call 602-619-9123 to authorize*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

7. OVERPAYMENT

As to any overpayment made please

OR



Credit to Deposit Account No.



Send refund check

WARNING:

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

8. STATEMENT

The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED

Signature(s) of Petitioner(s)

Linda Anderson

Date

12/31/11

Typed or printed name(s)

LINDA J ANDERSON

Registration Number, if applicable

Telephone Number

602-679-9123

Address

*3311 E OREGON AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018*

Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

ENCLOSURES



Maintenance Fee Payment



Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)

*Letter of Explanation**check for too*

Linda J. Anderson
3311 E. Oregon Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85018
December 27, 2011

TO:

copy sent
Director of US Patent and Trademark Office
P O Box 979070
St Louis, MO
63197-9000

AND TO:

per used site
Office of Petitions
Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA
22313-1450

RE: Patent #5,971,242

To Whom it May Concern:

I am submitting this petition to reinstate my patent.

Attached please find:

- 1) A letter of explanation of the unavoidable circumstances leading to the non-acceptance of patent maintenance fee
- 2) Letter from bank manager explaining the circumstances
- 3) Screen shot of my attempts to pay on-line in a timely manner showing "server error"
- 4) Copies of proof funds were available
- 5) Printouts from bank of attempts to make a Debit card charge.
- 6) Copy of the Maintenance Fee Transmittal Form, Fax cover letter, Privacy Statement, and Notice of Non-Acceptance of Patent Maintenance Fee


Linda J. Anderson, Patentee

Letter of Explanation

RE: Patent #5,971,242

I attempted several times to use my credit card to pay my patent maintenance fees on 10/25/2011. I received the same message numerous times stating that there was a "Server Error" and that I should verify my card information. (see exhibit)

After receiving the "Server Error" message many times, I called the USPTO to find out what the issue was. I told them I needed to pay my maintenance fees and that I kept getting the same message. They told me there must be a problem with the system and that I could keep trying the same thing. They told me that if it still did not work that I should fax my credit card information using the Maintenance Fee Transmittal Form and the Credit Card Payment Form.

After trying the system over and over again, I faxed the Maintenance Fee Transmittal Form and the Credit Card Payment Form. I checked my account balance each day to see if the amount had been withdrawn. Because the funds had not been withdrawn, on 10/28 I called again to make sure that my fax had been received. I was told by Anisha that it takes 3-5 days to process and she told me that they had received my forms.

You can imagine my distress when I received Notice of Non-Acceptance of Patent Maintenance Fee dated 10/27 and postmarked 10/28. I called the USPTO at the number on the notice and I believe I spoke with Michael Bangura. He told me I could petition to reinstate.

It took me several trips to my bank to find out what happened. After much investigation at and by my bank and a change of bank managers-- the new VP/client services manager explained to me that their system had denied the charge for \$2,440 even though I had more than sufficient funds to cover that amount. Their explanation was that they have a daily limit for a maximum credit card charge as a protection against fraud. I have attached a letter of explanation from the new bank manager dated 12/22.

This had never been explained to me at any time. I have made credit card charges in excess of this amount in the past and have never had this experience before.

I took more than reasonable care to ensure that the fee would be paid timely and am filing this petition promptly after I was able to determine what had happened at my bank.

- 1) The USPTO system gave me a Server Error message and to verify my card information-- it didn't tell me that my bank had denied the charge in error.
- 2) When I called the USPTO for help, the representative did not tell me that my bank had denied the charge, they said they was a system problem and they told me to fax in the credit card information.
- 3) The USPTO did not inform me there was a problem with my credit card. My phone number and fax number are on the credit card form.

①

RE: Patent #5,971,242

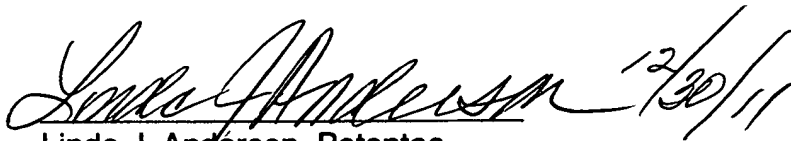
- 4) My bank did not inform me that my charges were limited by an amount other than the funds I have available.
- 5) My bank did not let me know that a credit card charge was being denied. They did not contact me to get my approval. They only found the facts after quite a bit of searching at my request.

I believe that I made more than reasonable efforts to ensure timely payment of the patent maintenance fee. If I had been informed at any of my attempts that the bank had declined the charge, I would and could have called my banker to have the bank make the necessary arrangements to approve the charge.

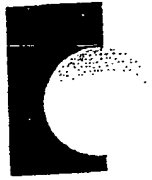
I respectfully request that my patent be reinstated. I have included a check for \$2,440 and a separate check for \$700 fee for reinstatement. I also request that I not be charged the additional \$700 fee because of the extenuating circumstances.

Please contact me by email or phone if you need further information.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda J. Anderson, Patentee
linda@kangaring.com
602-679-9123



SUNRISE BANK
OF ARIZONA

Camelback Office
2777 E Camelback Rd
Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Tel. 602.224.5800

December 22, 2011

Linda Anderson
3311 E Oregon Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Re: Debit card 000001658

Dear Ms. Anderson,

I am responding to your inquiry regarding a debit card transaction that was declined on 10/25/2011 and 10/27/2011 in the amount of \$2440.00. According to our records the transaction was declined as a result of exceeding an internal fraud detection limit. This is called our CNP limit or card not present limit. This is set at a lower amount than your standard debit/POS transaction limit in order to deter fraud from occurring when a transaction is attempted without actually swiping the card.

The only way you would have known that the transaction was denied was from the merchant as it did not hit an overdraft report on the Bank end. We have access to denial reports but only monitor them when an issue arises as a result of a declined transaction or possible fraud transaction. It is used mostly as a research tool in the event of such an occurrence.

If you need any additional information or have further questions please contact me at (602) 224-5800.

Regards,

Tricia Blaylock
VP/Client Services Manager
Sunrise Bank of Arizona
2777 E Camelback Rd Ste 100
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(602) 224-5800

Member
FDIC

3

Screen Shot of "Server Error"

RE: Patent #5,971,242

Screen shot 2011-10-25 at 1:09:27 PM


Previous Next Zoom Move Text Select Annotate Sidebar Search

Mail File Edit View Mailbox Message Format Window Help

Failed Transaction

https://ramps.uspto.gov/eram/Controller;jsessionid=0000RV5wWCGZ-u1QphpdL6duJXG:11g0uehq7

KR user KANGARING™ LinkedIn YouTube SWALife Login Page 24 Hour Fitn...ss Schedule Southwest A...t Southwest MapQuest - ... Directions

 **United States
Patent and
Trademark Office**

Return To:
USPTO Home Page
Finance Online Shopping Page

Server Error

ReturnCode = -80

ReasonCode = 18

We are still unable to receive bank authorization for this sale. If you would like to try again, please verify your card information and then begin a new browser session.

[Need Help?](#) | [USPTO Home Page](#) | [Finance Online Shopping Page](#) | [Alerts Page](#)

STAR STATION



CMA Applications

Card # 4157461700111658

Display

Print

Cancel

Card Management & Authorization

Transaction Details

4157461700111658

SUNRISE BANK OF ARIZON (IC8264 / 41574617)

Restrict	Maint Hist	Fees	Holds	PIN/TIN	Card Production	E-mail	Device Request	
Cardholder	Accounts	Limits	CNP Limits	Trans				

Date/Time	10/27/2011 12:40:38	Requested Amount	2440.00
Serial Numbe	00025444	Authorized Amount	0.00
Terminal ID	00000001	Completed Amount	0.00
Acquiring Part ID	002532	Surcharge Amount	0.00
Description	POS OFFLINE DEBIT AU	Fee Amount	0.00
From Account	000	Overdraft Applied	N
To Account		POS/POI	
Reg E Address	USPTO ALEXANDRIA VA	Service Class	(B) POS
Message Type	1012	Stand-In	
Result	EXC CNP	Advice Code	
Denial Code	TC - EXCEEDS CNP LIMI		
Reject Reason	0		
Transaction	80		

Prev Trans

Next Trans

Show Summary

4

STAR STATION



CMA Applications

Card # 4157461700111658

Display

Delete

Submit

Card Management & Authorization

Transaction Details

4157461700111658

SUNRISE BANK OF ARIZON (IC8264 / 41574617)

Restrict	Main Hist	Fees	Holds	PIN/TIN	Card Production	E-mail	Device Request	
Cardholder	Accounts	Limits	CNP Limits	Trans				

Date/Time	10/25/2011 16:36:05	Requested Amount	2440.00
Serial Numbe	00020789	Authorized Amount	0.00
Terminal ID	00000001	Completed Amount	0.00
Acquiring Part ID	002532	Surcharge Amount	0.00
Description	POS OFFLINE DEBIT AU	Fee Amount	0.00
From Account	000	Overdraft Applied	N
To Account		POS/POI	
Reg E Address	USPTO ALEXANDRIA VA	Service Class	(B) POS
Message Type	1012	Stand-In	
Result	EXC CNP	Advice Code	
Denial Code	TC - EXCEEDS CNP LIM		
Reject Reason	0		
Transaction	84		

Prev Trans

Next Trans

Show Summary

PRINT FORM | PRINT SERIES FORM | VIEW MESSAGES

Deposit Inquiry For
Linda J. Anderson

2828

PREVIOUS < SUBMIT > EXIT X

SPECIAL MESSAGES:

Has protection Memo posted Internet Banking

Last statement balance / date 3,791.56 / Sunday, November 13 2011
Current balance 1,381.12 Statement cycle 18

VIEW IMAGE I | PRINT IMAGE A

TRANSACTION SET I

Posted *	Description	Check #br *	Amount	Balance *
10/20/11	POS Debit - DDA		199.00 -	3,713.02
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		16.26 -	3,696.76
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		19.53 -	3,677.23
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		22.95 -	3,654.28
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		23.40 -	3,630.88
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		26.14 -	3,604.74
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		26.20 -	3,578.54
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		57.27 -	3,521.27
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		120.50 -	3,400.77
10/21/11	POS Debit - DDA		325.07 -	3,075.64
10/24/11	Deposit		20.00 -	3,705.64
10/24/11	POS Debit - DDA		65.25 -	3,640.39
10/24/11	POS Debit - DDA		93.50 -	3,546.89
10/24/11	Checks-Inclearings	304	32.65	3,579.74
10/25/11	POS Credit - DDA			

Previous < More >

PREVIOUS < SUBMIT > EXIT X

The history screen is
displayed when the "DDA
History View" parameter is
set to "Y".[Learn more...](#)SILVERLAKE
CREDIT UNION

Deposit Inquiry For
Erinda J. Anderson

PREVIOUS < SUBMIT > EXIT X

SPECIAL MESSAGES:

Has protection Memo posted Internet Banking

Last statement balance / date 3,791.56 / Sunday, November 13 2011
Current balance 1,301.12 Statement cycle 10

VIEW IMAGE | PRINT IMAGE

TRANSACTION SET

Posted	Description	Check #	Amount	Balance
10/25/11	Checks-Inclearings	255	194.00 -	3,385.74
10/26/11	POS Debit - DDA		13.49 -	3,372.25
10/26/11	ACH Debit		49.99 -	3,322.26
10/26/11	ACH Debit		90.01 -	3,232.25
10/26/11	ACH Debit		114.50 -	3,117.75
10/26/11	ACH Debit		172.53 -	2,945.22
10/26/11	ACH Debit		25.06	2,970.28
10/31/11	POS Credit - DDA		45.14	3,015.42
10/31/11	POS Credit - DDA		69.81	3,085.23
10/31/11	POS Credit - DDA		158.35	3,243.58
10/31/11	POS Credit - DDA		1,000.00	4,243.58
10/31/11	Deposit		303.00 -	3,940.58
10/31/11	ATM Withdrawal-DDA		11.42 -	3,929.16
10/31/11	POS Debit - DDA		40.75 -	3,888.41
10/31/11	POS Debit - DDA			

Previous

More

PREVIOUS < SUBMIT > EXIT X



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

LINDA J. ANDERSON
3311 E. OREGON AVENUE
PHOENIX, AZ 85018

October 27, 2011

NOTICE OF NON-ACCEPTANCE OF PATENT MAINTENANCE FEE

REGARDING PATENT NUMBER: 5971242

Payment Amount Received: \$ 2,440.00

Payment Year 11.5 (e.g., 3.5, 7.5, 11.5)

PAYMENT RECEIPT DATE 10/26/2011
(Mailroom Date Stamp)

PAYMENT STATUS:

No charge was applied to your credit card account.

Your payment was not accepted for the following reason(s):

- ☐ 1. The maintenance fee for the above-identified patent was previously paid on _____.
☐ Information regarding the previous payment is stated in item 8 below.
- ☒ 2. The patent expired on 10/26/2011. See "Patent Expiration" section below.
- ☐ 3. The fee was paid too early. See 37 CFR 1.366(b). Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.362(d), the payment window will open for the above-identified patent on _____.
- ☐ 4. Your payment was not sufficient to cover the maintenance fee and any required surcharge for the above-identified patent. An additional amount of \$ _____ is/was required.
- ☐ 5. The above-identified patent was reissued. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.366(d), the reissue patent number and reissue application number must be provided.
- ☐ 6. The payment did not include corresponding patent and application numbers, and was not specially accepted.
- ☐ 7. The above-identified patent is not subject to maintenance fees. No maintenance fees are due on utility patents filed before 12/11/80. No maintenance fees are due on design patents or on plant patents. See 37 CFR 1.362(a) and (b). (The "Resubmitting Maintenance Fee Payment" and "Patent Expiration" sections below do not apply.)
- ☒ 8. Other: Your credit card company declined charges on your credit card.

Resubmitting Maintenance Fee Payment

The six (6) month "grace period" for paying the maintenance fee for the above-identified patent begins on _____ and ends on _____. In addition to the maintenance fee of \$ _____, a resubmitted payment filed in the USPTO during the 6 month "grace period" is required to include a surcharge of \$ _____. (See "Note" at the bottom of this Notice.)

To avoid patent expiration, the maintenance fee plus any required surcharge must be resubmitted in a manner that rectifies all of the indicated reason(s) for payment non-acceptance and *must be filed on or before the date the 6 month "grace period" ends*. Send by facsimile to the Office of Finance, Maintenance Fee Branch at (571) 273-6500, or by mail to the following address: Mail Stop M Correspondence, Director of the USPTO, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, to the attention of the individual who has signed below.

Patent Expiration

The date the six (6) month "grace period" ends becomes the expiration date of the above-identified patent if the required amount for paying the maintenance fee is not filed in the USPTO by that date. See 37 CFR 1.362(g). Expired patents may be reinstated if a petition as set forth in 37 CFR 1.378 is granted. If the above-identified patent has expired and reason number 5 or 6 above is the only reason indicated for payment non-acceptance, it is possible that the payment may be accepted if resubmitted with a petition as set forth in 37 CFR 1.377, rather than 37 CFR 1.378.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, contact the Office of Finance, Maintenance Fee Branch at (571) 272-6500. Please ask for the individual who has signed below.

Michael Bangura (571) 272-6365
Printed Name of USPTO Representative

[Signature]
Signature of USPTO Representative

NOTE: All USPTO fees (including patent maintenance fees) are subject to change. If you are making a payment, visit the www.uspto.gov website or contact the Office of Finance to verify the amount due on the date payment is to be made. A maintenance fee payment can be timely made using the certificate of mailing or transmission procedure set forth in 37 CFR 1.8.

PTO/SB/46 (03-09)

Approved for use through 03/31/2012. OMB 0851-0018

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

MAINTENANCE FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM*(Do not submit this form electronically via EFS-Web)*

Address to:
 Director of the United States
 Patent and Trademark Office
 Attn: Maintenance Fee
 2051 Jamieson Avenue, Suite 300
 Alexandria, VA 22314

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Attn: Maintenance Fee, 2051 Jamieson Avenue, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314"

on 10/26/2011
 Signature Linda J. Anderson

Typed or printed name LINDA J. ANDERSON

- OR -

Fax to: 571-273-6500

Enclosed herewith is the payment of the maintenance fee(s) for the listed patent(s).

- ☐ A check for the amount of \$ _____ for the full payment of the maintenance fee(s) and any necessary surcharge is enclosed.
- ☒ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is enclosed.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge \$ _____ to cover the payment of the fee(s) indicated below to Deposit Account No. _____.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the payment of the required fee(s) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____.

* Information required by 37 CFR 1.366(c) (columns 1 & 2). Information requested under 37 CFR 1.366(d) (columns 3, 4, & 5).

Item	Patent Number Column 1	U.S. Application Number [e.g., 06/555,555] Column 2	Maintenance Fee Amount (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g)) Column 3	Surcharge Amount (37 CFR 1.20(h)) Column 4	Payment Year (select one below) Column 5		
					3.5 yrs	7.5 yrs	11.5 yrs
1	5971242	08939927	2365.00	75.00			✓
2							
3							
4							
5							

Subtotals: Columns 3 & 4

Total Payment

2365.00 75.00
 2440.00

☐ additional sheets attached for listing additional patents.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on Form PTO-2038.

Respectfully submitted, **

Customer's Signature

Customer's Name

Telephone:

Linda J. Anderson
LINDA J. ANDERSON
602-912-9123

Registration Number, if applicable: _____

Fax: 877-550-6783

Note: All correspondence will be forwarded to the "Fee Address" or to the "Correspondence Address" if no "Fee Address" has been provided. See 37 CFR 1.363.

Payment of small entity fee is appropriate if small entity status still exists, see 37 CFR 1.27(g). To establish small entity status or to change status from small to large entity, a written assertion is required. See 37 CFR 1.27 and 1.33(b).

** WHERE MAINTENANCE FEE PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE BY AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE A DEPOSIT ACCOUNT, BOTH THE NAME AND SIGNATURE OF AN AUTHORIZED USER ARE REQUIRED.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.368. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 5 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Attn: Maintenance Fee, 2051 Jamieson Avenue, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314.

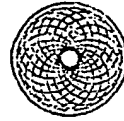
If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Privacy Act Statement

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